AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1, 8-12, and 26-27 as provided below.

1-12. (Canceled).

13. (Previously Presented) A method for partial coalescing transmit buffers comprising:

receiving an array of virtual buffers for a data packet;

mapping buffers of the array of virtual buffers to an array of physical buffers, wherein one or more of the physical buffers are associated with each of the virtual buffers;

analyzing the array of virtual buffers and the array of physical buffers for individual buffer sizes;

on the array of virtual buffers having a size greater than the array of associated physical buffers, selectively coalescing an initial number of buffers of the array of virtual buffers into a coalesced buffer; and

on the array of virtual buffers not having a size greater than the array of associated physical buffers, selectively coalescing an initial number of buffers of the array of physical buffers into the coalesced buffer.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13, further comprising forming a coalesced array from the coalesced buffer and non-coalesced buffers of the array of physical buffers.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14, further comprising passing the coalesced array to a network device for transmission.

16. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein the initial number of selected buffers to coalesce depends on an initial fragment size.

17. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein the coalesced buffer has a physical memory size and a physical address.

18. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein the array of virtual buffers is received from host software.

19-22. (Canceled).

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25, wherein the determined number of virtual buffers comprises a number of virtual buffers that have a total size associated therewith that is less than a predetermined size.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25, wherein the determined number of physical buffers comprises a number of virtual buffers that have a total size associated therewith that is less than a predetermined size.

25. (Previously Presented) A method for partial coalescing transmit buffers comprising:

obtaining a data packet from host software, wherein the data packet is located in an array of virtual buffers that each map to one or more physical buffers in a system memory;

analyzing the virtual buffers and the physical buffers associated with the data packet;

selectively copying either selected ones of the virtual buffers or selected ones of the physical buffers into a coalesced physical buffer based on the analysis; and

wherein analyzing the virtual buffers and the physical buffers comprises:

coalescing a determined number of virtual buffers into the single physical coalesced buffer if the total size of the virtual buffers is greater than the total size of the physical buffers; and

coalescing a determined number of physical buffers into the single physical coalesced buffer if the total size of the virtual buffers is less than the total size of the physical buffers.

26-27. (Cancelled).